

**ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus of initiating a plurality of requests for statistics to be sent to an associated plurality of nodes in a segment of a communication network is provided. One or more requests are associated with an individual node. Each node has one or more node attributes. The method includes defining a sequence for initiating the requests to be sent to the nodes. The sequence is based on a value of a selected node attribute of each node. The method also includes initiating the requests according to the sequence.